

# U.S. COMMISSION OF FINE ARTS

ESTABLISHED BY CONGRESS 17 MAY 1910

NATIONAL BUILDING MUSEUM  
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4 May 2005

Dear Secretary Small:

The Commission would like to thank you for the informational presentation by Harry Rombach on the site selection process for the proposed National Museum of African American History and Culture which was presented at the 21 April 2005 meeting. The Chairman appreciates your bringing the site selection process before the full Commission and whatever the final location, continues to advocate for the highest quality design in making the proposed museum a prominent destination in the nation's capital.

In last week's meeting, the Commission members found that the criteria and process that has been established for the site selection were appropriate and applicable but raised concerns about moving forward with the process without a well-defined building program. While the Commission has not endorsed any particular site, the members look forward to having the opportunity to review the selection made by the Smithsonian Board of Regents later this year. As always, the Commission staff is available should you or your staff require assistance.

Sincerely,



Thomas Luebke, AIA  
Secretary

Mr. Lawrence M. Small, Secretary  
Smithsonian Institution Building  
1000 Jefferson Drive, SW  
Washington, DC 20560-0016

cc: Harry Rombach, R.A., SI  
Robert L. Wilkins, Esq.  
E. Verner Johnson  
Dr. Robert L. Wright, Chairman, National Museum of African American History  
and Culture Presidential Commission